

WI-483
Camden Court Rowhouse Block
Salisbury
Private

1912

The Camden Court rowhouse block, built in 1913, represents the first major effort on Camden Avenue to erect attached apartment units in a plan to alleviate the housing shortage experienced in Salisbury during the first decades of the twentieth century. Earlier rowhouse blocks, designed on a smaller scale, were erected in Newtown during the last decades of the nineteenth century. The three-unit block that faces Camden Avenue as well as the six-unit Camden Court complex were designed in the widely popular neoclassical style with molded metal cornices and gable end pediments executed with classical detailing. Neoclassical porches grace the front of each rowhouse block.

The construction of the Camden Court block followed the Camden Avenue units by a few months. On January 2, 1913, an article in *The Wicomico News* announced,

The Camden Improvement Company broke ground Monday morning for a new brick block of six houses to be located on the new street running from Camden avenue to the Wicomico river, and in the rear of the brick block being erected on Camden avenue. These houses will be modern in every respect. Each house will contain a hall, front and back; front and back staircases and have six rooms and a bath. Front and back porches will add to the comfort of the dwellings and as they will face South, they will be very well ventilated and enjoy sunshine and southern breezes. Each house will have a basement under its entire length, electricity, gas, water and everything which goes to make a comfortable home.... This is the first time a piece of property has been developed along these lines in Salisbury and we feel sure it will prove a success.

While the original plans called for leasing the units, they were ultimately sold to individuals.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. W I-483

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Camden Court Rowhouse Block

2. Location

street and number 404-412 Camden Court

not for publication

city, town Salisbury

vicinity

county Wicomico

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Various Owners

street and number

telephone

city, town Salisbury

state MD

zip code 21801

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court

tax map and parcel Map 111, P.

city, town Salisbury, Maryland

liber 1466

folio 622

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☒ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☒ **Contributing Resource in Local Historic District**
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	6	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic		structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	6	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	

Maryland Historical Trust

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Name Camden Court Rowhouse Block

Continuation Sheet

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7. Description

Condition

	excellent	deteriorated
<u>x</u>	good	ruins
	fair	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Camden Court rowhouse block is a series of six, two-story, two-bay units at 404-414 Camden Court in the Camden Historic District in Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The rowhouse block stands on the south side of Camden Court facing north, and a alley runs along the south side of the apartments.

Built in 1913, the two-story, six-unit rowhouse block is supported on a brick foundation, and the red brick walls are comprised of a stretcher bond brick front wall and irregularly coursed seven-course common bond side and rear walls. The low sloping shed roof is hidden behind parapet walls.

The north (main) elevation is defined by repetitive two-bay units across the six-unit apartment block. The individual apartments are marked by an entrance and adjacent tripartite windows. A center nine-over-one sash window is flanked in each instance by a narrow multipane window. Several of the door openings retain early twentieth-century doors with oval windows. Each door is topped by a single-pane transom, and the opening is spanned by a masonry lintel. The adjacent window opening is spanned by a masonry lintel as well. Sheltering the first floor is a continuous early twentieth-century porch of Tuscan columns executed in three tiers to following the slightly sloping line of the terrain. Fixed between the Tuscan columns are rectangular baluster railings. The second floor of the apartment block is marked by six projecting oriole windows pierced by tripartite windows and trimmed with neoclassical detailing. The wall surfaces below the windows is finished by flush panels, and the roof is has a gable-front pediment enhanced with a wreath and ribbon motif. The base of the gable front roof is trimmed with a dentiled cornice. The oriole windows rise above the line of the parapet wall of the apartment block, which is encased in decorative metal. The east and west ends of the metal cornice feature decorative finials.

The side elevations are marked by an asymmetrical fenestration of nine-over-one sash windows topped by segmental, double-rowlock arches. Each window opening has a masonry sill. Rising through the side walls are interior, single-flue brick stacks.

The south (rear) wall of the apartment block features two-story, single-bay service wing that project from each unit. The first floor includes a recessed porch, while the second floor is pierced by a single nine-over-one sash window opening spanned by a double-rowlock arch.

The interiors were not seen.

Maryland Historical Trust

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8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
1600-1699	agriculture	economics	health/medicine	performing arts	
1700-1799	archeology	education	industry	philosophy	
1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	engineering	invention	politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	art	entertainment/	landscape architecture	religion	
2000-	commerce	recreation	law	science	
	communications	ethnic heritage	literature	social history	
	community planning	exploration/	maritime history	transportation	
	conservation	settlement	military	other:	
Significance dates 1913		Architect			
Specific dates		Builder			

Evaluation for:

National Register

☐ Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Camden Court rowhouse block, built in 1913, represents the first major effort on Camden Avenue to erect attached apartment units in a plan to alleviate the housing shortage experienced in Salisbury during the first decades of the twentieth century. Earlier rowhouse blocks were erected in the Newtown neighborhood during the late nineteenth century. The three-unit block that faces Camden Avenue as well as the six-unit Camden Court row were built designed in the widely popular neoclassical taste with molded metal cornices and gable end pediments executed with classical detailing. Neoclassical porches grace the front of each rowhouse block.

The construction of the Camden Court block followed the Camden Avenue rowhouses by a few months. On January 2, 1913, an article in *The Wicomico News* announced,

The Camden Improvement Company broke ground Monday morning for a new brick block of six houses to be located on the new street running from Camden avenue to the Wicomico river, and in the rear of the brick block being erected

(Continued)

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on Camden avenue. These houses will be modern in every respect. Each house will contain a hall, front and back; front and back staircase and have six rooms and a bath. Front and back porches will add to the comfort of the dwellings and as they will face South, they will be very well ventilated and enjoy sunshine and southern breezes. Each house will have a basement under its entire width and length, electricity, gas, water and everything which goes to make a comfortable home....This is the first time a piece of property has been developed along these lines in Salisbury and we feel sure it will prove a success.¹

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¹ *The Wicomico News*, 2 January 1913.

9. Major Bibliographical References

WI-483

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area

Acreage surveyed 1/4 acre

Quadrangle name Salisbury, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The historic boundary is coincidental with the current metes and bounds of the property.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

street & number P. O. Box 5

date 9/5/2000

city or town Westover, Maryland 21871

phone 410-651-1094

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
410-514-7600

501 NW
HEBRON

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

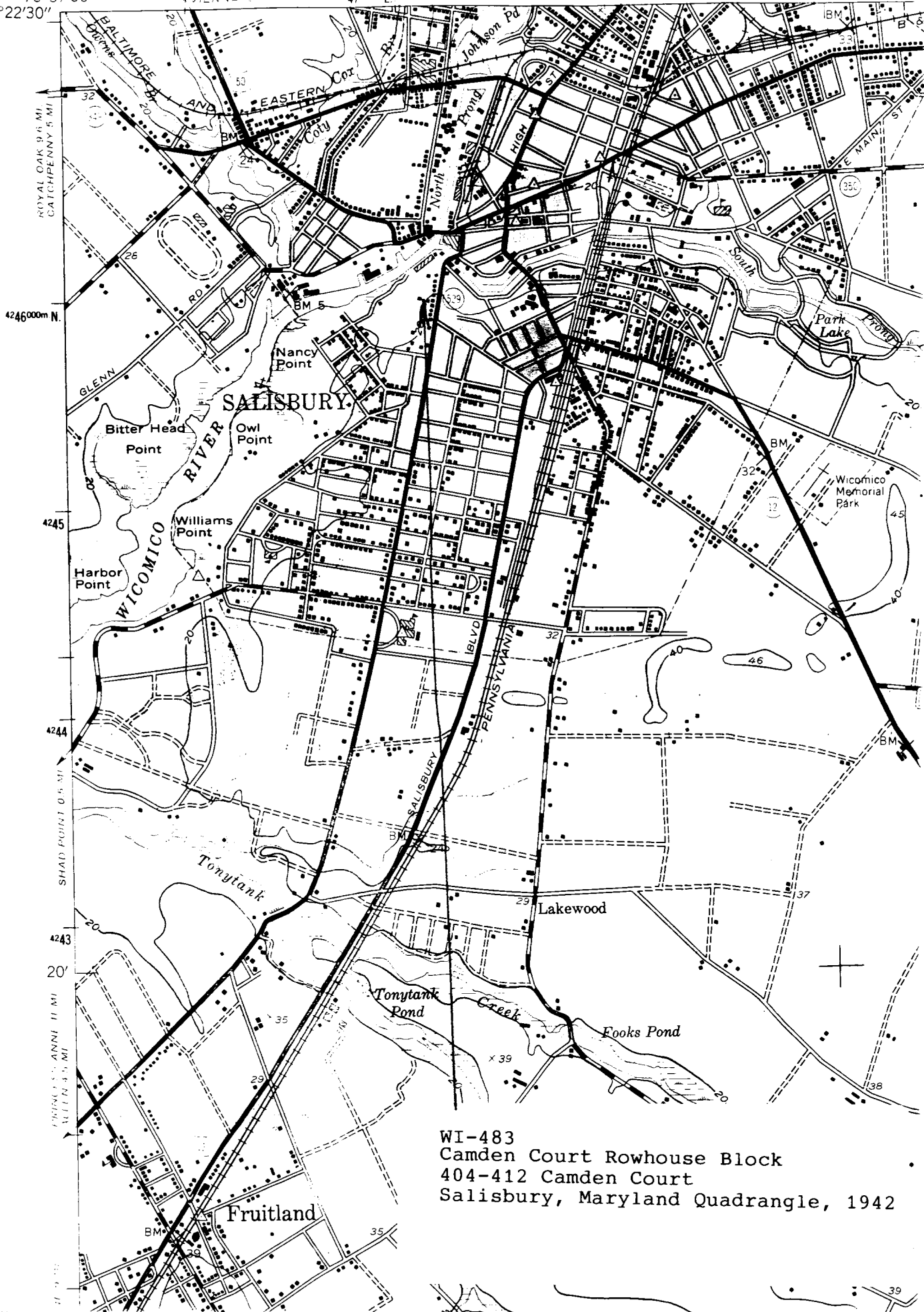
75°37'30"
38°22'30"

CAMBRIDGE 31 MI
VIENNA 15 MI

447000m E

LAUREL 13 MI
DELMAR 6 MI

35'



WI-483
Camden Court Rowhouse Block
404-412 Camden Court
Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle, 1942



WBC 483

Carson River - Carson City, NV

Spring, Nevada - Carson, NV

WORTHEN - 21-12-30

9/2000, Paul T. and, 21-12-30

NEV, / NV 3121

1 or 2



W. 483

Camp on Great River - Blaine
Stark, Minnesota, 1900.

November 2nd - 1900

9/2000, Pine Township, Blaine, Minn. -

W.C. / W.D. 5120

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